



Memorial Day 2011

Since the end of the Civil War, generations of Americans have set aside the last Monday in May to honor the service and sacrifice of those who have died in defense of our great nation. This year we will observe our tenth Memorial Day as an Army at war, and many among our Band of Brothers and Sisters have paid the ultimate price for freedom during that time. Just as those who have come before them, we will forever remember their courage and selflessness. I thank you—our Soldiers, Families and Civilians—for allowing their legacies to endure with your continued service.

Memorial Day also marks the beginning of the summer season and time for outdoor fun, travel and Family vacations, among other activities. The long holiday weekend will be the first opportunity for many of our Soldiers, Family members and Civilians to enjoy the warm weather and time with one another, so it's especially important we work together to keep everyone safe. Leaders, engage with your Soldiers on their holiday plans, and Soldiers, please look out for one another and speak up when your buddy takes unnecessary risks. Speeding in a privately owned vehicle or on a motorcycle, neglecting to wear seat belts or personal protective equipment and drinking while driving or boating are all too common and very real hazards for every member of our Army Family.

The U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center is here to help make your holiday—and every day—safe. Our annual Safe Spring/Summer campaign is currently underway and contains a wealth of information on warm weather activities and how you can reduce your risk while enjoying all the season has to offer. Please take advantage of the campaign and all the other tools and resources available on our website, <https://safety.army.mil>, and let us know what more we can do to serve you and our Army.

Thank you again for your contributions, dedication and service to our Army and our country. Enjoy your well-deserved break, and remember to always play it safe!

Army Safe is Army Strong!

WILLIAM T. WOLF
Brigadier General, USA
Commanding